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the other, latched to one another and, in this form, are positioned in the relevant cavity. During subsequent heating, the expansible shaped element 8, which fills merely a border region between the two half-shells 1, 9, expands in a predetermined direction, namely in an open gap 15 between the two half-shells, in the direction of the adjacent inner wall 12. Expansion in the inward direction is prevented by the integrally formed inner contour 2 and expansion in the transverse direction is prevented by virtue of the fact that material is not provided there. --

In the Claims:

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Claim 1 (twice amended). A configuration for separating cavities for sealing or sound-proofing, comprising:

a heat-expansible element constructed as a contoured ring-like plate;

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a retaining device to be positioned in a cross-sectional region of a cavity, said retaining device having two separately produced half-shells being latched to one another at a distance from one another using a latching device, said heat-expansible element being retained between said half-shells;

(one of said half-shells having an inner contour;)